

Comstock Communicator

A monthly publication

June 2010

Growing Together in the light of the SON

Teacher & Counselor Appreciation Coffee

Special points of interest:

- Pastor Ben's Thoughts
- Library Notes and Review from Thea M.
- Recipe Corner
- Schedules

Inside this issue:

Pastor Ben's Thoughts	2
New in the Library	3
Book Review	4
FYI	5
Recipe Corner	6
Schedules	7
Calendar	8

The Fellowship Team would like to invite the congregation to an appreciation coffee for all our Sunday School teachers, Bible study leaders, and youth counselors. Come on Sunday, June 13 after the morning service and help us thank all of our volunteers for a wonderful year.

Our Sunday School is run by Jim Bosch with the help of some wonderful teachers: Rachel Slager (grades K-1), Julie Smit (grades 2-3), Karen Tiesman (grades 4-5), Mark & Kim Terpstra (middle school), Joanne Smit (high school), and Tina

Slager (adults). And Mark Terpstra who runs the screens each week for singing.

Children's Worship: Kelly Hulst, Cindy Amos, Leah Brower, Jan Larkin and Thea McNeillage and all



Thank you Teachers and Counselor

their wonderful helpers: Allison Bosch, Abigail Triemstra, Molly Selles, Katelynn DeBruyn, and Megan Nowak.

GEMS leaders: Karen Triemstra, Becky Cramer and Barb VanderLugt.

Cadet leaders: Greg Nowak and Mark Smit.

Middle School Youth: Mark & Kim Terpstra.

High School Youth: Will & Lyn Scholten.

Ladies Bible Study: Joanne Smit & Eleanor Meints.

Men's Bible Study: Jim Bosch.

God is good ~ all the time!

All the time ~ God is good!

Creativity at work in our Worship Center

A word of thanks to all the ladies who have worked on the various banners for our Worship Center starting with:

Joanne Dusselje and the Fall Leaves banner, Leah Brower for the four Advent banners

Tina Slager for the Psalm 23 banner Joanne Smit and Julie Smit for our Palm Sunday processional ribbons and Easter Ribbon banners Leah Brower for the shades of Green banners.

(These last banners and

the ribbon banners were inspired by the website Pamela T Hardiman Liturgical Fiber Art which some of you might enjoy looking at.)

Thanks ladies for enhancing our worship experience!

THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR BEN

Page 2

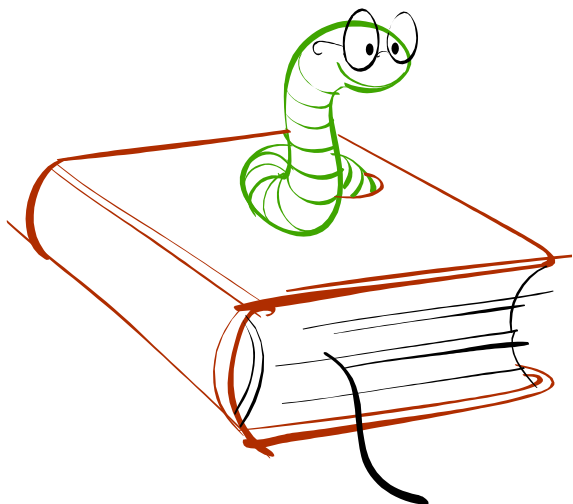
Summer brings with it the wonderful opportunity to take a bit of a break from the rush of the fall, winter, and spring. The kids are out of school, the weather is great, and many different places are calling for us. That is a wonderful thing. I pray that you enjoy your vacations, your cottages, and your rest. But I also will be praying this, that we don't rest from the calling God has given us as a church. While in some ways, summer is a good rest from the busyness of the church program year, it also brings the temptation to pull back in ways that are unhealthy—both for us as individuals and for the entire church. My prayer is that we as a church don't do that. There will be various opportunities this summer to engage in ministry with our community, to introduce them to our fellowship and invite them into it. Stay tuned for these opportunities, the first being the Comstock Daze event at Robert Morris Park.

I also encourage you to be in prayer and be engaged in the needs of our church. One of the main needs we need to be in prayer for is the leadership for our high school youth group. We need to pray that the right people join Rachel Slager to lead our youth to greater growth in Christ. Perhaps God is calling you to this. Please be aware of the needs of this church and let us all have a mindset that the things that go on here are not just things to do, but have significance for eternity. If we have this mindset and if our hearts are in tune with that, God can do mighty things here. The threat that always lurks for any church community is satisfaction with the status quo, both for ourselves and for the broader body. God calls us to a higher mindset than that—he calls us to growth in greater knowledge of his Son. We have a high calling. So, we all need to check ourselves and ask—am I sitting in the status quo or am I following where Christ is leading?

I also want to give you a report from the Worship Team. The team has been exploring for a little while the possibility of bringing someone in to give more leadership in the area of worship. This has been a discussion in years past and it has now come to the fore again. The worship team sees the need for greater leadership for a few reasons. First, we think greater consistency in who is the lead accompanist will greatly help the strength of our praise teams and services. Currently, we are getting outside accompanists for five of our eight monthly services. This brings great inconsistency in how the praise team operates and does not allow for the cohesiveness that the team desires. These outside folks are also not invested in our church. They are simply hired to play, but not be part of the community. Second, the worship team senses the need for someone to give stronger leadership to the praise teams. We need someone who has the right gifts to equip those already involved to greater growth. Greater leadership can also guide others into participation who might have been fearful to get involved before. Third, we trust that greater strength in our services will allow for greater growth as a church, both spiritually and numerically.

As we've been thinking of these things over the last six months or so, we received the name of Mike Lee. With today's coming, Mike has been with us two times. As you can tell, he is a gifted musician who also is gifted in worship leadership. Mike is a recent graduate of Calvin College where he served as a worship leader for Calvin's various worship opportunities. He comes highly recommended and the worship team has been greatly encouraged by our conversations with him. He is highly gifted and shares with us a passion for blended worship. In our recent interview with him, Mike expressed great appreciation for this church as he said it was the friendliest church he's been to. He and his fiancé Katie, who are getting married in August, were encouraged by your interest in them. Both of them are interested in medical missions and will begin pursuing that in the next couple years.

With all this said, the worship team is exploring with Council the possibility of hiring Mike in a part-time role as Worship Director. Please be in prayer for this as the Council discerns God's direction. Please let me know if you have any thoughts on this. In Christ,
Pastor Ben



SEE WHAT'S NEW IN THE LIBRARY!

Okay, men, it's your turn! With Father's Day occurring in June, we always like to feature books that would appeal to the fellows. We have several new offerings for you featured on our library cart, as well as some familiar favorites:

Shattered by *Frank Pastore* - Cincinnati Reds pitcher Frank Pastore stepped onto the mound to throw another fastball - something he'd done thousands of times since childhood. But this time was different . . . This is a story of how the fragments of broken dreams can be reassembled into even bigger and better things. And how this lifelong atheist began a journey that changed his entire life. Sports fans as well as "non" can enjoy and learn from this book.

The Heart Mender by *Andy Andrews* - While digging up a withering myrtle tree beside his waterfront home on the Gulf coast, author Andy Andrews unearths a rusted metal container filled with Nazi artifacts, and begins an intriguing investigation that unlocks an unspoken past that took place in his backyard - literally! This helps him spin an historically accurate adventure set sharply against the warm waters and white sands of the Gulf of Mexico in World War II America.

Winston Churchill by *John Perry* - A short "Christian Encounters" series biography which highlights the life and faith of important personages in history. Again, World War II becomes the background for many of the important points in the life of this amazing man.

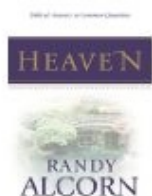
Bonhoeffer - **Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy** by *Eric Metaxas* - Once more, World War II features prominently in the new, long-awaited biography of this giant of the Christian faith. Most of us know the story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer and his role in resisting the Nazis, and even taking part in an assassination attempt on Adolf Hitler. But this book probes deeply into the facts and the motives that powered his life. It takes the double stands of Bonhoeffer's life - the theologian and the spy - and weaves them together in an amazing story of faith and courage. This biography is quite a bit more ambitious than the Churchill one, but it "reads like a great novel", comments the filmmaker of the Bonhoeffer movie (which we also have in our library).

DVD: "Billy - The Movie" - featuring the early years of beloved evangelist Billy Graham's life and ministry. This would be good for the whole family to watch together.

Book Review

HEAVEN

by Randy Alcorn



According to Alcorn the subject of heaven rates as one of the least accurately discussed subjects in the whole of Christendom

“After 25 years of extensive research, Dr. Alcorn’s writings help us picture Heaven the way Scripture describes it.”

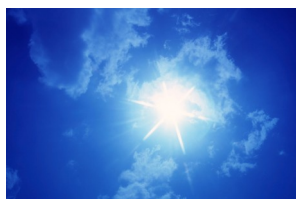
I love this book! It has changed my way of thinking, and excited and encouraged me more than any other in a long time. I think my general impression of Heaven used to be disembodied spirits, clouds, eternal singing and harp-strumming - although in recent years I've realized there's much more to it than that. And, as a gardener, I've often marveled at how awesome the Garden of Eden must have been, and wished I could have been there. But I never really put the two together before, like Randy Alcorn has. He writes:

"Eden was not destroyed. What was destroyed was mankind's ability to live there . . . God is not done with Eden. He preserved it as a place that mankind will one day occupy again . . . we're told that the tree of life will be located in the New Jerusalem (Rev. 22:2). If we know that the tree that distinguished Eden will be there, why not Eden itself? This would fit perfectly with Rev. 2:7's statement that the tree of life is presently in Paradise."

This is just one example (that appealed particularly to me) of how the author has taken a supposition about the physical properties of Heaven and brought in scripture to show how possible and - in many cases - even likely, it could be. He also writes,

"If God had wanted to consign us to hell and start over, He could have. He could have made a new Adam and Eve, and sent the old ones to Hell. But He didn't. Instead, He chose to redeem what He started with - the heavens, Earth, and mankind - to bring them back to His original purpose. God is the ultimate salvage artist. He loves to restore things to their original condition - and make them even better."

After 25 years of extensive research, Dr. Alcorn's writings help us picture Heaven the way Scripture describes it - a bright, vibrant and physical New Earth, brimming with Christ's presence, wondrous natural beauty, and the richness of human culture as God intended it. An awesome place! And he points out the differences between the "New Heaven and New Earth" (which are really one in the same), and the present Heaven, where Christians will go who die before Judgment Day.



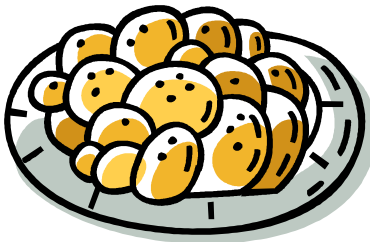
Have you ever wondered "What is Heaven really going to be like?"

I found this so interesting, and it's caused me to dwell more on eternity than ever before - after all, that's our real home - this life is just a blink of the eye! So . . . I thoroughly recommend this book (and so does Kay Triemstra - ask her about it!) Be forewarned that it is lengthy, and therefore can be kept out for more than the usual month before your librarian starts to bug you! But it is very easy reading and well worth the time.

Council Clips

The Council met on Tuesday, May 11 to discuss various church matters. Here are some highlights.

1. The Council approved a recommendation from the Fellowship Team to have a special Sunday School Kick-Off Celebration on September 12. The morning service will be followed by a picnic and special events. The afternoon will conclude with a time of worship and praise that will take the place of the evening service.
 2. The Education Team is continuing to work on securing leaders to join Rachel Slager in leadership of the YPS group (high school youth group). The Council encourages the church to be in prayer for this.
 3. The Worship Team inquired of Council for their thoughts on pursuing a part-time worship director. Though no formal recommendation was approved, the idea was met with enthusiasm and the Worship Team was encouraged to continue pursuing this possibility.
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Thanks to all the people who donate cookies for Sunday morning coffee. There are left over containers in the kitchen from potlucks etc. that need to be picked up. Any not picked up soon will be donated to Second Impressions.



The Evangelism Team would like to invite you to participate in the Comstock Daze Family Festival being held at Robert Morris Park on Saturday, June 26. We will have a booth with games and we need people to come and help run the booth for the exciting community event. Please sign up on the sheet on the back table at church. Thank you.

Grandma's Chicken Wings

From: Kelly Hulst

1 cup soy sauce
1 tsp. ginger
1 cup sugar
1 tsp. garlic powder
1/4 cup oil
1/2 cup pineapple juice
1 bag frozen chicken wings

Mix everything and pour over wings

Bake at 350 degrees for 1 1/2 hours, turning every 1/2 hour.

Pineapple Pudding Cake

From: Muriel Cramer

1 box yellow cake mix (mix and bake as directed - let cool)
1 can (1 lb, 4 oz.) crushed pineapple (do not drain)
1 cup sugar
1 pkg. vanilla pudding (cook and serve) not instant

When cake is real cool, punch holes in cake with toothpick.

Mix pineapple and sugar, cook until sugar is dissolved.

Spoon over cake.

Cook pudding (directions on box)

Spread over pineapple and chill in refrigerator

When ready to serve spread cool whip over pudding and sprinkle with coconut or chopped walnuts.

Corn Casserole

From: Julie Smit

1 can corn (undrained) and 1 can cream corn
8 oz. sour cream, 2 eggs (beaten)
1 pkg. corn break mix, 1/2—3/4 cup margarine
1 cup grated sharp cheese

Melt margarine in 9 x 13 dish, if sour cream is stiff dilute with liquid from corn.

Add both corns and liquid to dish with melted margarine.

Drop sour cream by spoonfuls on top, sprinkle corn bread mix over top.

Dribble eggs then drag a spoon though several times.

DO NOT stir or you'll turn into a toad.

Sprinkle cheese over top, dance a jig and put in oven.

Bake uncovered for 30-35 minutes at 350 degrees until it sets.

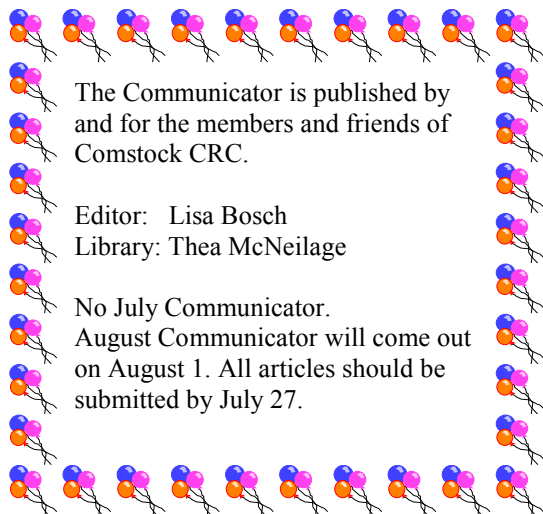


1 Tyler Triemstra
Abigail Triemstra
2 Henrietta Linders
Marilyn Poortenga
15 Muriel Cramer
16 Hannah Slager
17 Amy Mort
Cecil Curtiss
18 Dawn Kersten
David Scholten
19 Kim Terpstra
22 Todd Triemstra
23 Rachel Slager
25 Paul Kemp
26 Anne Barnes
29 Esther Brower
Everett Dykgraaf



Anniversaries

6/1/81 Jack & Joanne Karsten
6/5/92 Don & Barb VanderLugt
6/16/90 Jim & Lisa Bosch
6/16/90 Greg & Sueann Nowak
6/22/84 Mark & Kim Terpstra
6/23/07 Cecil & Liz Curtiss
6/26/59 Jerry & Marilyn Poortenga



The Communicator is published by
 and for the members and friends of
 Comstock CRC.

Editor: Lisa Bosch
 Library: Thea McNeilage

No July Communicator.
 August Communicator will come out
 on August 1. All articles should be
 submitted by July 27.

June Schedules

Page 7

NURSERY

	<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>
6/6	Joel & Cindy Amos Family	Molly Selles
6/13	Jim & Lisa Bosch Family	Karen Triemstra
6/20	Leah Brower & Megan Nowak	Joanne Karsten
6/27	Dwain & Becky Cramer Family	Julie Smit

OFFERINGS

	<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>
6/6	Comstock Ministries/Christian Ed.	World Lit. Ministries
6/13	Comstock Ministries/Benevolent	Christian Education
6/20	Comstock Ministries/Christian Ed.	Missions
6/27	Comstock Ministries/Christian Ed.	Forgotten Man Ministries

ACCOMPANISTS

	<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>
6/6	Kay Triemstra	Joy Koning
6/13	Kay Triemstra	Larry Boekeloo
6/20	Barb Hassing	Barb Hassing
6/27	Linda French	Ruth Wiersma

LIBRARIANS

6/6 & 13	Esther Post
6/20 & 27	Karen Triemstra

WELCOME CENTER

6/6	Walt & Muriel Cramer
6/13	Jim & Lisa Bosch
6/20	Jan Larkin
6/27	Bob & Thea McNeilage

COFFEE SERVER

Dale & Deb Cramer

USHERS

AM - Morgan French & Sparky VanOosterum
 PM - Ruth Slager

GREETERS

AM - Dave & Judy Joling
 PM - Herm & Darlene Cramer

SONG SERVICE LEADERS

6/6	Pete DenHartigh
6/13	Mark Smit
6/20	open
6/27	MaryLee Gosnell

TECH TEAM

6/6 & 27	Mark & Matt Terpstra
6/13	Scott & Seth Brower
6/2	Jim & Tina Slager

June 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:00 Elders 7:00 Deacons	2	3	4	5
6 10:45 Coffee for graduating seniors	7	8	9 9:30 Layette Team	10 1:00 Power in Prayer 7:00 Education Team	11 7:00 YPS overnighier	12
13 9:30 Communion 10:45 Appreciation coffee	14 Flag Day	15 7:00 Council	16	17 1:00 Power in Prayer	18	19
20 Father's Day	21	22	23 8:30 Fellowship Breakfast at Theo & Stacy's restaurant	24 1:00 Power in Prayer	25	26
27	28 Blood Drive 2-8 PM	29	30			